

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 SY-05 EUR-12 IO-13 PER-01 OPR-02

A-01 OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-05 PC-01 /096 W

-----211640Z 129498 /54-14

O R 211125Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9345

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY/PRETORIA 2969

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (ADDITION PARA 4

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEN, BC

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION AGAINST U.S. AND U.K. EMBASSIES

1. THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (TIBONE) AND CHIEF OF SPECIAL BRANCH (MPPHUTING) INFORMED US AT 1230 LOCAL TODAY THAT GOB DISTRICT COMMISSIONER IN GABORONE HAD GRANTED PERMCT FOR UBS (UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA AND SWAZILAND(STUDENTS TO DEMONSTRATE TODAY AT UK HIGH COMMISSION AND U.S. EMBASSY. PURPOSE OF DEMONSTATION IS TO PROTECT "U.S. AND U.K. STAND ON BOTSWANA'S COMPLAINT IN UNSC".

2. IN TALKING WITH TIBONE, I ASKED WHETHER POLICE HAD BEEN NOTIFIED. HE SAID THEY HAD BUT OFFERED TO TELEPHONE TO CONFIRM THAT IT HAD BEEN DONE. AFTER REVIEWING SITUATION, WE HAVE DECIDED TO ALLOW LOCAL

EMPLOYEES TO STAY HOME FOR THE REST OF TH DAY. EMBASSY WILL BE CLOSED BUT CONTINUE TO BE MANNED BY CRO, SECURITY OFFICER AND DCM.

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3. COMMENT: THIS IS NOT UNEXPECTED OUTWARD MANIFESTATION AT U.S. (AND UK) FOR THE ABSTENTION AT UNSC VOTE KAN 14. EDITORIAL IN JAN 20 DAILY NEWS (BEING SENT SEPTTEL) THOROUGHLY DISTORED U.S. POISILON CONCLUDING OHAT U.S. VOTE RELFECTEDN"U.S. SYMPATHY FOR SMITH RACIST REGIME". DURING YESTERDAYS'S CEREMONIES OPENING BOT-BAM ROAD, I HAD OCCASION TO DISUCSS THIS BUEJCT WITH VICE PRESIDENT MASI

E AND

FOUR OTHER GOB MINISTERS. THEY DENIED THAT DAILY NEWS EDITORIAL REFLECTED GOB THINKING BUT DID NOT CONCEAL DISAPPOINTMENT AT U.S. INABILITY TO SUPPORT GOB IN UNSC VOTE. I HAVE APPOINTMENT TODAY WITH ACTING FONMIN AND MININFO KWELAGOB (MADE PRIOR TO LEARNING OF DEMONSTRATION) AND WILL SORESS TO HIM POINTS MADE BY U.S. SPOKESMEN DURING UCSC DEBATE. END COMMENT.

4. NOTE: DEMONSTRATION HAS JUST TAKEN PLACE, AT 1530 LOCAL TIME. APPROXIMATELY 75 STUDENTS, MIXED WITH SOME CHILDREN, AND HOUSE-WIVES, STOOD IN FRONT OF EMBASSY SINGING SONGS IN SETSWANA. ALMOST ALL APPEARED IN A NEAR HOLIDAY MOOD; ONLY VISIBLE POLITICAL MANIFESTATION WAS SOME HALF-DOZEN PLACARDS (EXAMPLES: "DOWN WITH ANGLO-AMERICAN IMPERIALISM"; "ANGLO-AMERICAN HYPOCRACY," ETC) STUDENTS WERE ESCORTED BY UNIFORMED MOTORCYCLE POLICE. THEY, PLUS TWO POLIRE STATIONED IN FRONT OS CHANIERY, KEPT STUDENTS ABOUT 100 FEET FROM ENTRANE. NO APPARENT ATTEMPTS TO MOVE CLOSER OR TO ENTER CHANCERY. AFTER ABOUT 6-8 MINUTES, STUDENTS MOVED OFF IN ORDERLY MANNER TOWARD BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION.

WE HAVE JUST (1600) RECEIVED A CALL FROM THE UK HIGH COMMISSION. THEY SAY STUDENTS DID PRESENT A PETITION TO THEM ON BEHALF OF UBS STUDENTBODYM BRITISH PLAN TO SEND AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PROBABLY INCLUDING AN EXPLANATION OF THEIR UNSC ABSTENTION. THEY WILL GIVE US A COPY OF THE PETITION.

NORLAND

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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